13. (New) A method of performing surgery on a patient, comprising the steps of:

providing a windsock filter disposed on a distal region of a flexible elongate member;

introducing the distal region of a flexible elongate member into a peripheral artery

and advancing the windsock filter to a site within the aorta upstream of a branch vessel from the

aorta;

deploying the windsock filter at the site within the aorta;

manipulating the aorta by direct access in a region upstream of the site within the aorta; and

removing the windsock filter from the aorta,

wherein embolic material is generated and diverted downstream of the left subclavian artery before the windsock filter is removed from the aorta.

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- 14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the branch vessel is the innominate artery.
- 15. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of introducing a blood bypass cannula into the aorta.
- 16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the cannula is introduced upstream of the site where the windsock filter is deployed.
- 17. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the step of manipulating the aorta comprises blocking the aorta.

Patent

Attorney Docket: 271/094

- 18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of blocking the aorta includes cross-clamping the aorta.
- 19. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the step of manipulating the aorta comprises unblocking the aorta while the windsock filter device is deployed within the aorta.
 - 20. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said elongate member is a catheter.
 - 21. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said elongate member is a guidewire.
- 22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein said windsock filter is releasably attached to the guidewire.
- 23. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the peripheral artery is selected from the group consisting of a subclavian artery and a femoral artery. --